

### **REMARKS**

Please reconsider the application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Applicant thanks the Examiner for carefully considering this application.

#### **Claims Amendments**

Claims 21-26 have been added by this reply. These new claims are fully supported by material found in the original specification. No new matter has been added by these amendments.

In addition, amendments have been made to claims 14, 18, and 19 to correct typographical errors. Further, in order to clarify the invention, amendments have been made to claims 1-3, 6-9, 11, 13-14, and 16-20.

#### **Disposition of Claims**

Claims 1-20 were pending in this application. Claims 1-3, 6-9, 11, 13-14, and 16-20 have been amended. Claims 4-5, 10, and 12 have been cancelled. Claims 21-26 have been added. Claims 1, 7, 9, 14, 17, and 20 are independent. The remaining claims depend, directly or indirectly, from claims 1, 7, 9, 14, and 17.

#### **Objection(s)**

Claim 14 has been objected to for containing a typographical error. Claim 14 has been amended in this reply to correct the typographical error. Thus, this objection is now moot. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

#### **Rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C § 112**

Claims 18-19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112 as indefinite for having inappropriate dependencies. Claims 18-19 have been amended in this reply in view of this rejection. Both claims 18 and 19 now depend from claim 17. In view of the

amendment, this rejection is now moot. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

**Rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C § 102**

Claim 20 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,144,990 (“Brandt”). Claim 20 has been amended in this reply. Specifically, claim 20 has been amended to incorporate a limitation that the handler object uses information from a properties object. To the extent that the rejection still applies to the claim as amended, this rejection is respectfully traversed.

Brandt does not disclose a properties object as now recited in amended claim 20. Thus, Brandt cannot anticipate amended claim 20. Further, Brandt fails to contain any suggestion or teaching that would render obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art a framework for creating an extensible Web application comprising the properties object, as now recited in amended claim 20. Therefore, Brandt cannot render claim 20 obvious. Thus, claim 20, as amended, is patentable over Brandt. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

**Rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C § 103**

Claims 1-19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as obvious over U.S. Patent 6,233,622 (“Atsatt”) in view of U.S. Patent 6,529,936 (“Mayo”). Claims 4, 5, 10, and 12 have been cancelled in this reply. Accordingly, the rejection of these claims is now moot. With respect to the remaining claims, this rejection is respectfully traversed.

The present invention, as recited in independent claims 1, 7, 9, 14, 17, and 20, relates to a method or apparatus involving a properties object using a property collection for requests. The properties object uses one or two methods, and relies on use of a collection of properties in the form of name/value pairs. Advantageously, by doing so, “method explosion” can be avoided. (See page 12, last paragraph, through page 13, third paragraph).

As noted by the Examiner, Atsatt is silent with reference to a properties object. Moreover, Mayo does not disclose a properties object as recited in the claimed

invention. Instead, Mayo discloses objects (32-32n), which represent a resource of the device. Each resource implements a *collection* of *methods* (as opposed to name-value pairs, as used in the claimed invention). (See column 6, lines 53-60). In Mayo, the “properties” of the objects (32-32n) provide an interface (where “interface” is used in the standard object-oriented sense) to the functions (*i.e.*, the *methods*) of the resource (that the object represents). (See column 7, lines 20-25 and 31-39). In contrast, in the claimed invention, a properties object comprising name-value pairs is used to avoid method explosion.

Both Atsatt and Mayo fail to suggest or disclose a properties object as recited in claim 1. Thus, claim 1 is patentable over Atsatt and Mayo, whether considered separately or in combination. Because claims 2, 3, and 6 depend from claim 1, these claims are patentable for at least the same reasons.

Likewise, claim 7 includes the properties object as described above. Because the properties object is not disclosed in or taught by either Atsatt or Mayo, claim 7 is patentable over Atsatt and Mayo, whether considered separately or in combination. Because claim 8 depends from claim 7, that claim is patentable for at least the same reasons.

Claim 9, which has been amended to incorporate the limitations of dependent claims 10 and 12, includes the properties object not shown or suggested by Atsatt or Mayo. In view of this amendment, claim 9 is patentable over Atsatt and Mayo, whether considered separately or in combination. Because claims 11 and 13 depend from claim 9, these claims are patentable for at least the same reasons.

Claims 14 and 17 also include the properties object as described above. Because the properties object is not disclosed in or taught by either Atsatt or Mayo, claims 14 and 17 are patentable over Atsatt and Mayo, whether considered separately or in combination. Because claims 15-16 depend from claim 14, and claims 18-19 depend from claim 17, these claims are patentable for at least the same reasons.

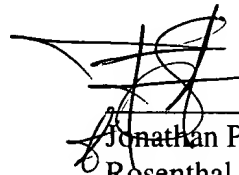
In view of the above, Atsatt and Mayo fail to show or suggest the present invention as recited in the amended claims. Thus, the claims, as amended, are patentable over Atsatt and Mayo, whether considered separately or in combination. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

**Conclusion**

Applicant believes this reply to be fully responsive to all outstanding issues and places this application in condition for allowance. If this belief is incorrect, or other issues arise, do not hesitate to contact the undersigned or his associates at the telephone number listed below. Please apply any charges not covered, or any credits, to Deposit Account 50-0591 (Reference Number 16159/142001).

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 7/10/03

 #45,079  
Jonathan P. Osha, Reg. No. 33,986  
Rosenthal & Osha L.L.P.  
One Houston Center, Suite 2800  
1221 McKinney Street  
Houston, TX 77010  
Telephone: (713) 228-8600  
Facsimile: (713) 228-8778

48680\_1.DOC